



**COPY** Westchester.gov.com

33-552  
TN

**WORKING FAMILIES PARTY  
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION**  
(N.Y. Election Law § 6-120)

We, Robert P Master and Alison E Hirsh, Presiding Officer and Secretary of the meeting of the State Executive Board of the Working Families Party of New York State, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT at a meeting of the State Executive Board of the Working Families Party of New York State, duly held on the 10 day of July, 2017, a quorum being present, said committee, by majority vote of the members present, did consent to and authorize the designation of the following named individuals for nomination as candidates of the Working Families Party for the public offices indicated, at the Primary Election to be held on September 12, 2017:

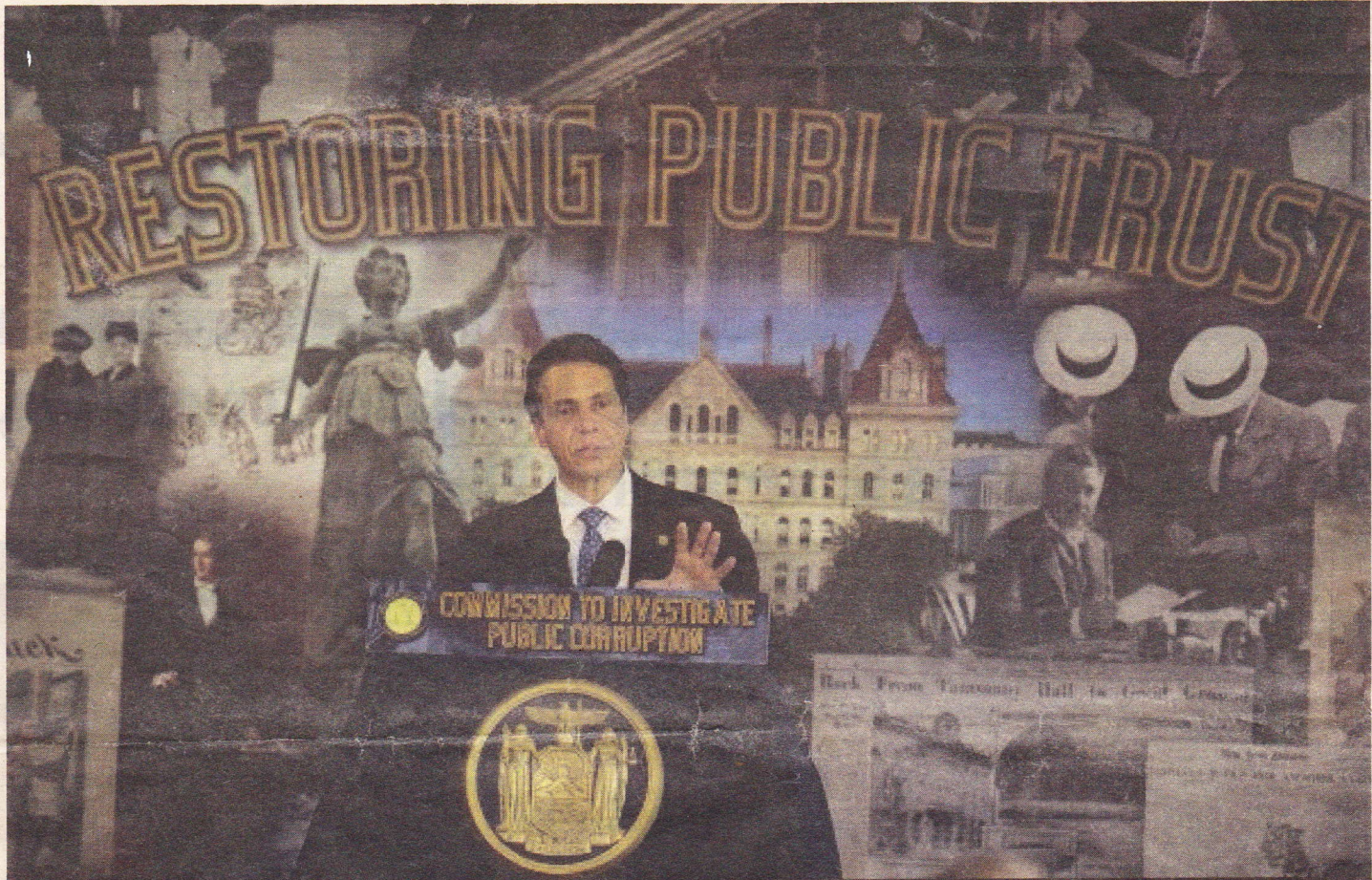
<u>Name of Candidate</u>	<u>Public Office</u>	<u>Place of Residence (also post office address, if different)</u>
George S Latimer	COUNTY EXECUTIVE (WESTCHESTER COUNTY)	47 Wainwright St, Rye, NY 10580 (City of Rye)
Timothy C Idoni	COUNTY CLERK (WESTCHESTER COUNTY)	45 Interlaken Ave, New Rochelle, NY 10801
George E Fufidio, Jr.	COUNTY COURT JUDGE (WESTCHESTER COUNTY)	633 California Rd, Eastchester, NY 10708
Arlene Gordon-Oliver	FAMILY COURT JUDGE (WESTCHESTER COUNTY)	46 North Rd, White Plains, NY 10603 (Town of Greenburgh)
Thomas A Murphy	Mayor, Village of Mamaroneck	342 Richbell Rd, Apt. B4, Mamaroneck, NY 10543
Chris Burdick	Town of Bedford Town Supervisor	12 Millertown Rd, Bedford, NY 10506
Kate Galligan	Town of Bedford Town Council	153 Cherry St, Katonah, NY 10536 (Town of Bedford)
MaryAnn Carr	Town of Bedford Town Council	105 Nottingham Rd, Bedford Hills, NY 10507 (Town of Bedford)
Linda D Puglisi	Town of Cortlandt Town Supervisor	341 Furnace Dock Rd, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
Laroue Rose Shatzkin	Town of Cortlandt Town Clerk	1260 Washington St, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
James F Creighton	Town of Cortlandt Town Council	334 Alpine Dr, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
Debra A Carter-Costello	Town of Cortlandt Town Council	100 11th St, PO Box 660, Verplanck, NY 10596
Mary E Breining	Town of Cortlandt Receiver of Taxes	48 Sunset Rd, Montrose, NY 10548
Kimberly Ragazzo	Town of Cortlandt Town Justice	30 Finney Farm Rd, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520
Paul J Feiner	Town of Greenburgh Town Supervisor	25 Boulder Ridge Rd, Scarsdale, NY 10583 (Town of Greenburgh)





Vol. VI, No. XXXI

*Westchester's Most Influential Weekly*



The New York State Budget, The Moreland Commission

# Ethics Reform

and the

# Gubernatorial Election

By HEZI ARIS, Page 2

**Who Will Probe  
This Situation?**

By Hon. RICHARD BRODSKY,  
Page 3



## Mission Statement

The Westchester Guardian is a weekly newspaper devoted to the unbiased reporting of events and developments that are newsworthy and significant to readers living in, and/or employed in, Westchester County. The Guardian will strive to report fairly, and objectively, reliable information without favor or compromise. Our first duty will be to the PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO KNOW, by the exposure of truth, without fear or hesitation, no matter where the pursuit may lead, in the finest tradition of FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

The Guardian will cover news and events relevant to residents and businesses all over Westchester County. As a weekly, rather than focusing on the immediacy of delivery more associated with daily journals, we will instead seek to provide the broader, more comprehensive, chronological step-by-step accounting of events, enlightened with analysis, where appropriate.

From amongst journalism's classic key-words: who, what, when, where, why, and how, the why and how will drive our pursuit. We will use our more abundant time, and our resources, to get past the initial 'spin' and 'damage control' often characteristic of immediate news releases, to reach the very heart of the matter: the truth. We will take our readers to a point of understanding and insight which cannot be obtained elsewhere.

To succeed, we must recognize from the outset that bigger is not necessarily better. And, furthermore, we will acknowledge that we cannot be all things to all readers. We must carefully balance the presentation of relevant, hard-hitting, Westchester news and commentary, with features and columns useful in daily living and employment in, and around the county. We must stay trim and flexible if we are to succeed.

## THE HEZITORIAL ANALYSIS

# The New York State Budget, The Moreland Commission, Ethics Reform and the Gubernatorial Election



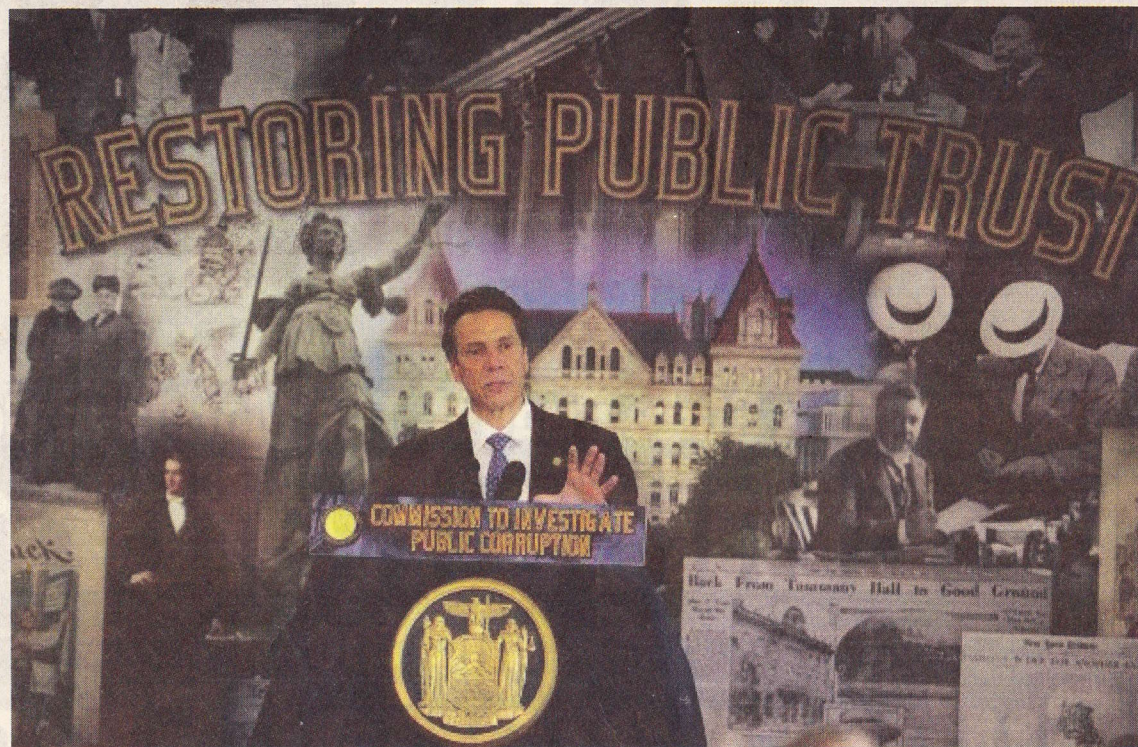
By HEZI ARIS

The Moreland Commission has generated a lot of hysteria, but way too thick a smoke screen of obfuscation. Throw in the

Real Estate Board of New York, Governor Andrew Cuomo's Secretary Lawrence Schwartz, the alleged protagonists that cajoled this crisis into fevered pitch and you learn of fiction concocted to titillate while seemingly validating a well-managed plot whose plausible scenarios feign credibility. The facts differ from those offered by pundits who sense a smoldering fire. Let's review what is known and the facets that fit into a puzzle that has eluded those watching this hoped for salacious story as it unfurls before an audience riveted to the shenanigans of Albany. The cage is being rattled. Nothing has been revealed; intended or political or illegal.

Hobbled with a seemingly endless diet of innuendos, scandals, and subsequent arrests, Gov. Andrew Cuomo set up the Moreland Commission to create a perception of ethical conduct among the members of the New York State Senate.

In the meanwhile, the contentiousness recognized in backroom discussions, and the recalcitrance intimated publicly before the New York State Senate, suggested New York State Senate Majority Co-leader Dean Skelos was reluctant to cast his votes for Governor Cuomo's Proposed FY2014-2015 New York State Budget; to be also supported by the votes of his Co-leader Jeff Klein, head of the independent Democratic Conference.



In the meanwhile, the ten-member New York State District Attorneys who presided over the Moreland Commission, had learned that some Senators' conduct was illegal. It would soon be learned that they numbered twenty.

Members of the New York State Senate are permitted to apply for transportation re-imbursement costs, that is, items such as gasoline, and toll costs. By law, the same Senators are entitled to charge their election campaign efforts for transportation re-imbursement. The illegality was

revealed when it was discovered that some Senators filed for reimbursement from the New York State Senate, his/her political campaign effort, and or re-imbursement for miles travelled on Federal Income Tax returns. That would amount to double or triple dipping. A definite "No, no!" Not ethical and not legal.

Out of a current roster of 63 New York State Senators, 20 were found to be double-dipping. The twenty were all Republicans.

Gov. Cuomo approached Senator

Skelos with a backroom "solution". Gov. Cuomo would dismiss the Moreland Commission in exchange for a horse-trade with Sen. Skelos; rather than maintain his reluctance toward approving the budget, Sen. Skelos would instead approve Gov. Cuomo's Proposed FY2014-2015 Budget. By dismantling the Moreland Commission, the 20 Senators engaged in allegedly illegal conduct would be free of a paper trail that if found, could exacerbate their earlier than expected political

Continued on page 3





## THE HEZITORIAL ANALYSIS

## The New York State Budget, The Moreland Commission, Ethics Reform and the Gubernatorial Election

*Continued from page 2*

demise. Gov. Cuomo also wanted passage of Campaign Finance Legislation. Such a bill passed but it fell short of what Gov. Cuomo had hoped for.

Senator Skelos accepted the deal. In doing so, Sen. Skelos salvaged the careers

of twenty Senators.

On the campaign trail, Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino has recoiled from the scandal; not quite bringing the political brouhaha to roost with Gov. Cuomo. Have you noticed that not one Republican Senator has endorsed

the Astorino candidacy? Part of the deal.

Those who once sweated out their possible demise before the likes of U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara may not realize that a paper trail does indeed exist. A look at the reimbursement forms presented to the New York State Senate and those

presented by the respective Senators by their political campaigns are public knowledge. Mr. Bharara has the added ability to gain access to IRS reports where tax write-off of mileage travelled and travel expenses may have been claimed that are duplicates or triplicates of similar, albeit redundant

credit/reimbursement already claimed.

A sincere thank you to those that stirred this issue in my consciousness again and a thank you to those who honed the facts with the precision of a scalpel.

## GOVERNANCE

## Who Will Probe This Situation?



By Hon. RICHARD BRODSKY

Often, when looking back at a bungled disaster, you wonder what the players were thinking, especially if they're smart and experienced. As we examine the Morelandgate catastrophe, we needn't bother wondering. We know, and it's no comfort.

The whole enterprise was created as a political sledgehammer to weaken the Legislature's ability to challenge the governor. As *The New York Times* reports, it was "purely a vehicle for the governor to get legislation. Another notch for his re-election campaign." And the governor himself suggested legal maneuvers to "squeeze the Legislature." Ethics, shmethics. We're in charge here.

Politics ain't beanbags, but this goes way beyond what we expect. Or does it?

Larry Schwarz, the governor's secretary, is one smart, tough cookie, with a record of making things happen for his boss. Andrew Cuomo is no shrinking violet either, and on-time budgets and new laws are now the norm, for better or worse. You want results? Stand aside.

Legislature was in the crosshairs.

The seeds of disaster were sown. The very maneuver that got Cuomo his political sledgehammer now endangers him. The governor has almost complete power over a Moreland Commission. It's his and can be directed as he sees fit, all perfectly legal. It's a different story when the attorney general is conducting the investigation, even by "referral." Interference with that, if it occurred, crosses the line.

There's a real need to get to the bottom of this, but very few options. Who does this investigation? Another Moreland Commission? Legislative committees? The Joint Commission on Public Ethics? The attorney general? All are dominated by the governor or involved in the underlying mess. We're left with an investigation by the U.S. Attorney that properly focuses on criminal wrongdoing, but leaves constitutional and civil problems uninvestigated.

The political process will eventually address the hypocrisy and lying. The primary and general election campaigns will seize on them, as they should. The governor will sooner or later face the



Governor Andrew Cuomo

law-breaking around member items and minor political deals. They're wrong and illegal. But the big problem, the one that affects all of us, the systematic corruption, is the perfectly legal behavior that transfers hundreds of millions of dollars from wealthy special interests to candidates. The heavy hitters weave a web of obligation and influence around decisions made by the governor, state agencies, the comptroller and the attorney general. Perfectly legal. And corrupt, in the sense that the big boys get their way.

Morelandgate, as an exercise in Legislature-bashing, was born in cynicism and leaves us no closer to a more ethical and public interest-based politics. The lies and hypocrisy are awful. But it's not enough to blame Cuomo. He exploited a perception of vast legislative

corruption that's the cherished child of the editorial boards, good government groups, and now the public. You want real reform in Albany? Go after the big money that everyone pursues legally, governor, Legislature, attorney general and comptroller alike. Nah. Wait 'til next year.

First published July 27, 2014 by the Albany Times Union ([www.timesunion.com](http://www.timesunion.com)) <http://www.timesunion.com/opinion/article/Richard-Brodsky-Who-will-probe-this-situation-5650474.php>

Richard Brodsky is a fellow at the Demos think tank in New York City and at the Wagner School at New York University.

# BECOME A BIOLOGY TEACHER!

Benefit from a distinctive program in Biology Education, which includes select biology courses taught by faculty at New York Medical College, a national leader in basic medical science education and research, and education courses by Touro Graduate School



# Who Will Probe This Situation?



By Hon. RICHARD BRODSKY

Often, when looking back at a bungled disaster, you wonder what the players were thinking, especially if they're smart and experienced. As we examine the Morelandgate catastrophe, we needn't bother wondering. We know, and it's no comfort.

The whole enterprise was created as a political sledgehammer to weaken the Legislature's ability to challenge the governor. As *The New York Times* reports, it was "purely a vehicle for the governor to get legislation. Another notch for his re-election campaign." And the governor himself suggested legal maneuvers to "squeeze the Legislature." Ethics, shmethics. We're in charge here.

Politics ain't beanbags, but this goes way beyond what we expect. Or does it?

Larry Schwarz, the governor's secretary, is one smart, tough cookie, with a record of making things happen for his boss. Andrew Cuomo is no shrinking violet either, and on-time budgets and new laws are now the norm, for better or worse. You want results? Stand aside.

Nope. Cuomo could have done all these things without the massive hypocrisy and possible illegality that occurred. If only they had obeyed the law.

Consider the Moreland Act statute. Its sole purpose is to investigate wrongdoing in the Executive Branch. The governor's response to the *Times* that a Moreland Commission "cannot investigate the executive" is a laughable and dangerous indication that truth-telling is not yet the policy of the administration. Cuomo knew it and knew that his plan to weaken the Legislature needed more, so he cut a deal with the attorney general, "referred" the matter to him, got a bunch of commissioners deputized as assistant attorneys general and, voila, the

Legislature was in the crosshairs.

The seeds of disaster were sown. The very maneuver that got Cuomo his political sledgehammer now endangers him. The governor has almost complete power over a Moreland Commission. It's his and can be directed as he sees fit, all perfectly legal. It's a different story when the attorney general is conducting the investigation, even by "referral." Interference with that, if it occurred, crosses the line.

There's a real need to get to the bottom of this, but very few options. Who does this investigation? Another Moreland Commission? Legislative committees? The Joint Commission on Public Ethics? The attorney general? All are dominated by the governor or involved in the underlying mess. We're left with an investigation by the U.S. Attorney that properly focuses on criminal wrongdoing, but leaves constitutional and civil problems uninvestigated.

The political process will eventually address the hypocrisy and lying. The primary and general election campaigns will seize on them, as they should. The governor will sooner or later face the music. Denial and evasion will only prolong the agony. But this is why we have elections.

But reform in Albany? Not this year.

Cuomo, with unbridled enthusiasm and cynicism, capitalized on the accepted wisdom, as offered by editorial boards and good government groups. Albany is systematically corrupt, and by Albany we mean the Legislature. The proof offered is the pathetic and dangerous set of petty crooks, largely from the Legislature, that steal and manipulate. Wrong. The truth is, Albany is not systematically corrupt, if by corruption you mean doing something illegal.

There's no excuse for the



Governor Andrew Cuomo

law-breaking around member items and minor political deals. They're wrong and illegal. But the big problem, the one that affects all of us, the systematic corruption, is the perfectly legal behavior that transfers hundreds of millions of dollars from wealthy special interests to candidates. The heavy hitters weave a web of obligation and influence around decisions made by the governor, state agencies, the comptroller and the attorney general. Perfectly legal. And corrupt, in the sense that the big boys get their way.

Morelandgate, as an exercise in Legislature-bashing, was born in cynicism and leaves us no closer to a more ethical and public interest-based politics. The lies and hypocrisy are awful. But it's not enough to blame Cuomo. He exploited a perception of vast legislative

corruption that's the cherished child of the editorial boards, good government groups, and now the public. You want real reform in Albany? Go after the big money that everyone pursues legally, governor, Legislature, attorney general and comptroller alike. Nah. Wait 'til next year.

First published July 27, 2014 by the Albany Times Union ([www.timesunion.com](http://www.timesunion.com)) <http://www.timesunion.com/opinion/article/Richard-Brodsky-Who-will-probe-this-situation-5650474.php>

Richard Brodsky is a fellow at the Demos think tank in New York City and at the Wagner School at New York University.

## BECOME A BIOLOGY TEACHER!

Meet the increasing need for science teachers by earning a Master's degree while continuing to work at your present job.

This is an affordable, 2-year, 10-course, 30-credit program with some courses offered online, geared towards individuals living and working in Westchester.



TOURO COLLEGE  
GRADUATE SCHOOL  
OF EDUCATION

Touro is an Equal Opportunity Institution

Benefit from a distinctive program in Biology Education, which includes select biology courses taught by faculty at New York Medical College, a national leader in basic medical science education and research, and education courses by Touro Graduate School of Education faculty.

Open-Houses will be held on:  
Thursday, August 7, 2014  
Wednesday, August 20, 2014  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
19 Skyline Drive, Hawthorne, NY 10532

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT:

Dr. Frances Hannan, Chair, Bio Ed.  
Touro College Biology Education Program

Phone: 914-594-4111

Email: [bioed.gse@touro.edu](mailto:bioed.gse@touro.edu)